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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC BRANDENBURG - ARADO Airfield

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DATE OF CONTENT 10 October 1949

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DATE PREPARED 30 November 1949

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 Blueprint

REMARKS

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1. About 40 single-engine aircraft were parked on the northern edge of the BRANDENBURG-ARADO (N 53/2 23) airfield. The planes were covered with tarpaulins at 10:30 a.m. and practiced flying later. They were of the following three types:

a. Eighteen to twenty low-wing monoplanes:

Radial engine, three-bladed propeller, radiator set under fuselage at trailing edge of wing, antenna mast atop of glazed cockpit, edged elevator assembly, landing gear retracting inward, retractable tail wheel, white hub.

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b. Twelve to fourteen IL-10s (see Annex):

Red hub, a small projection was visible at leading edge of wing after the landing gear had been retracted rearward. [redacted] previously mistook this projection for a cannon firing through the propeller disk. One about 35-mm cannon projecting by about 20 inches over each wing. A small radiator was set under the mid-fuselage.

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c. Six to eight low-wing monoplanes, presumably Yaks (see Annex):

Single-seat, in-line engine, radiator in line with trailing edge of wing.

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2. Formation flying was performed in the afternoon in fair weather. Nine IL-10s flew in one row while four fighters with radial engine circled the formation in elements of two. Take-offs and landings were performed from 60 to 90 minutes apart. The pilots were apparently changed after each landing and the planes were refueled from tank trucks. Judging by the performed flights the pilots were well trained.

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3.

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Two radio trucks with an about 25-foot radio mast each were standing on the western edge of the field. The southern section of the field was guarded by Soviet double sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The occupied quartering buildings were located behind a board fence in the northern section of the field where a braced radio mast, about 40 feet high, was erected.

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Comment:

The present occupation of the BRANDENBURG-ARADO airfield has not been determined. Recent reports indicate that a fighter unit was apparently transferred from JOETERBOG to BRANDENBURG.

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The fighter units previously stationed in BRANDENBURG-ARADO were presumably transferred to ORANIENBURG and FINOW. This is the first information on the presence of ground attack aircraft in BRANDENBURG-ARADO.

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The FINGERWALDE ground attack regiment has so far been assumed to be transferred to DOEBERITZ. It remains to be confirmed whether parts of this regiment were transferred to BRANDENBURG.

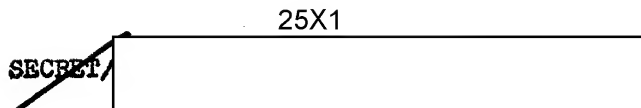
1 Annex: Aircraft Observed at the BRANDENBURG-ARADO Airfield.

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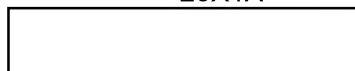
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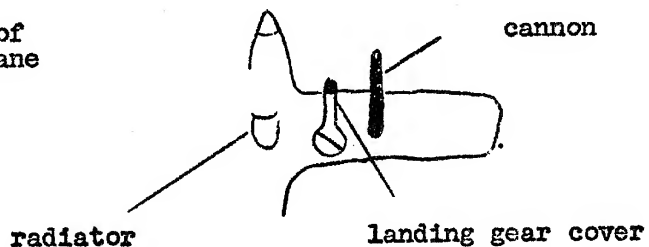
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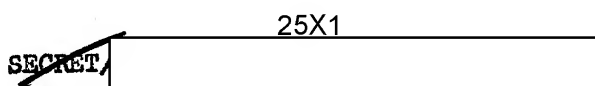


Aircraft Observed at the Brandenburg-Arado Airfield

View from below of
wing of IL-10 plane



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